

A SOLEMN  
League and Covenant  
FOR  
Reformation,  
AND  
Defence of Religion, The  
Honour and Happinesse of the  
King, and the Peace and Safety of  
the three KINGDOMES  
OF  
Scotland, England, and Ireland.

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*Jer. 50. 5. Come let us joyne our selves to the Lord in a perpetual Covenant that shall not be forgotten.*

*Prov. 25. 5. Take away the wicked from before the King, and his throne shall be established in righteousness.*

*2 Chron. 15. 15. And all Judah rejoiced at the Oath, for they had sworne with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire, and hee was found of them; and the Lord gave them rest round about.*

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*Die Jovis, 21 Sept. 1643. It is this day Ordered by the Commons in Parliament, That this Covenant bee forthwith printed and published. H. Elsynge. Cler. Parl. D. Com.*

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*Edinburgh, Printed by Robert Bryson. 1643.*





Sess. XIV. August. 17. 1643.

*The Generall Assemblies Approbation of  
the draught of the League and Covenant  
presented to them.*

**T**He Assembly having recommended unto a Committee, appointed by them to joyn with the Committee of the Honourable Convention of Estates, and the Commissioners of the Honourable Houses of the Parliament of England, for bringing the Kingdomes to a more near conjunction and Union, received from the aforesaid Committees, the Covenant after-mentioned, as the result of their consultations: And having taken the same, as a matter of so publick concernment, and of so deepe importance doth require, unto their gravest consideration, Did with all their hearts, and with the beginnings of the feelings of that joy which they did finde in so great measure upon the renovation of the Nationall Covenant of this Kirk and Kingdome, all with one voice approve and embrace the same, as the most powerfull mean, by the blessing of GOD, for settling and preserving the true Protestant Religion, with perfect peace in his Majesties Dominions, & propagating the same to other Nations, and for establishing his Majesties throne to all ages and generations. And therefore with their best affections recommend the same to the Honourable Convention of Estates, that being examined and approved by them, it may be sent with all diligence to the Kingdome of England, that being received and approven there, the same may bee with publick humiliation, and all Religious

and answerable solemnitie, sworn and subscribed by all true Professours of the Reformed Religion, and all his Majesties good subjects in both Kingdomes.

*A. Johnston.*

*The Convention of Estates their Approbation of the draught of the League and Covenant aforesaid, 17 August 1643.*



He Noblemen, Commissioners of Shires and Burrows now convened, having received the Covenant above-mentioned from their Committee, as the result of their consultations with a Committee of the General Assembly, & the Commissioners from both Houses of the Parliament of England; and having taken that Covenant unto their gravest consideration, Did with all their hearts and great expressions of joy and unanimitie approve and embrace the same; as the most powerfull mean, by the blessing of God, for settling and preserving the true Protestant Religion, with a perfect Peace in all his Majesties Dominions, & propagating the same to other Nations, & for establishing his Majesties thron to all ages. And being very confident that their brethren in the Kingdom of England wil heartily receive and approve the same; Therefore according to the earnest recommendation of that venerable Assembly of this Kirk now met, thinks it most necessarie for the good ends aforesaid, that it be sent into that Kingdome with all diligence, that being received and approved by their brethren there, the same may be with all religious solemnities sworne, and subscribed by all true Professours of the Reformed Religion, and all his Majesties good subjects in both Kingdomes.

*Arch. Primrose, Cler. Com.*

Edinburgh 11. Octob. 1643.


*Ordinance for the solempne receiving, swearing,  
and subscribing of the League and  
Covenant.*

**T**He Commissioners of the Generall Assembly,  
having received from their brethren sent unto  
the Kingdome of England, the solempne League  
and Covenant under-written, as it was appro-  
ven by the Honourable Houses of the Parliament of  
England, and the Assemblie of Divines in that King-  
dome, and solempnly sworn and subscribed there. After  
due examination therof, did all in one voice most hearti-  
ly receive and embrace the same, as agreeing with the  
draught, and unanimously and chearfully approven and  
embraced by the late Generall Assemblie, and Conventi-  
on of Estates, as the most powerfull mean by the bles-  
sing of GOD, for settling and preserving the true Prote-  
stant Religion with perfect peace in his Majesties Domi-  
nions, and propagating the same to other Nations, and  
for establishing his Majesties throne to all ages and gene-  
rations: And therefore according to the power given to  
them by the said Assembly, Ordain this solempn League  
and Covenant to be with publick humiliation, and all  
religious solemnities received, sworn, and subscribed by  
all Ministers and Professours within this Kirk, And, that  
this may be universally performed. It is also ordained  
that this League and Covenant be forthwith printed, and  
that the printed copies, bound with some clean sheets of  
paper be sent unto the Ministry, And that every Mini-  
ster upon the first Lords day, after the same shall come  
to his hands, read and explain it, and by exhortation  
prepare

prepare the people to the swearing and subscribing thereof solemnly, the Lords day next immediatly following. And it is further Ordained that Presbyteries take account of the performance hereof in their severall bounds, and that they proceed with the censures of the Kirk, against all such as shall refuse, or shift to swear and subscribe this League and Covenant, as enemies to the preservation and propagation of Religion, And that they notifie their names, and make particular report of their own diligence hereintill, to this Commission, or their Moderator, or Clerk to be delivered to them. And the Commissioners think it very convenient, for good example, and the better encouragement of others, that this Covenant be solemnly sworn, and subscribed by themselves now present, before the Congregation, in the East Kirk upon Friday next the 13. of this instant, after Sermon and exhortation to be made by Master *Robert Douglas* Moderator; And that the Commissioners of the Convention of Estates now in towne, and the Commissioners from the Parliament of England, and the Divines of that Kingdom here present, be earnestly desired to joyne with them in this solemn and religious Action.

*A. Ker.*

*At Edinburgh the 12 of October, 1643.*

 He Commissioners of the Convention of Estates, having received from the Commissioners of the Generall Assembly, the solemn League and Covenant under-written, approved and solemnly sworne and subscribed, in the Kingdome of England. And having taken the same to their serious consideration,

consideration, do unanimously and chearfully receive and embrace it, as agreeing with that draught, approved by the late convention of Estates and Generall Assembly. And therefore ordains the same to be with all religious solemnities sworne and subscribed by all his Majesties subjects of this Kingdome: and that under the pain to such as shall postpone or refuse, to be esteemed and punished as enemies to Religion, his Majesties Honour, and peace of thir Kingdomes; and to have their goods and rents confiscate for the use of the publick, and that they shall not bruik nor enjoy any benefite, place nor office within this Kingdome. And also ordains all Sheriffs, Stuarts, and others his Majesties Magistrates to Burgh and Land, and Committees in the severall Shyres, to be assisting to Ministers and Presbyteries, in procuring reall obedience hereunto. And that with all diligence they make report to the Committee of Estates, of the names of all such persons, as shall postpone or refuse, to the effect course may be taken with them as aforesaid. And that they may be cited to answer to the next Parliament, as enemies to Religion, King and Kingdomes; and to receive what further punishment his Majesty and Parliament shall inflict upon them. And further ordains thir presents to be printed with the former act of the Estates, and published at the Market Crosses of the head Burrows of this Kingdome; Where, through none pretend ignorance of the same.

*Arch. Primrose Cler. Com.*

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# A Solemne League and Covenant, for Reformation, and defence of Religion, &c.

**W**E Noblemen, Barons, Knights, Gentlemen, Citizens, Burgesſes, Miniſters of the Goſpel, and Commons of all ſorts in the Kingdoms of *Scotland, England, and Ireland*, by the providence of God living under one King, & being of one Reformed Religion, having before our eyes the glory of God, & the advancement of the Kingdome of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt, the honour and happineſſe of the Kings Maieſtie and his Poſterity, and the true publicke Liberty, Safety, and peace of the Kingdomes, wherein every ones private condition is included, and calling to minde the treacherous and bloody plots, conſpiracies, attempts, and practices of the enemies of God, againſt the true Religion, and profeſſors thereof in all places, eſpecially in theſe three Kingdomes ever ſince the Reformation of Religion, & how much their rage, power and preſumption, are of late, and at this time increaſed and exerciſed; whereof the deplorable ſtate of the Church and Kingdome of *Ireland*, the diſtreſſed eſtate of the Church and Kingdome of *England*, and the dangerous eſtate of the Church and Kingdome of *Scotland*, are preſent and publick teſtimonies; We have now at laſt, (after other means of ſupplication, Remonſtrance, Proteſtations and ſufferings) for the preſervation

vation of our selves and our Religion, from utter Ruine and Destruction, according to the commendable practice of these Kingdoms in former times, and the Example of Gods people in other Nations; after mature deliberation, resolved and determined to enter into a mutuall and solemn League and covenant, wherein we all subscribe, and each one of us for himself, with our hands lifted up to the most high God, do swear:

I **T**hat we shall sincerely, really and constantly through the Grace of God, endeavour in our severall places and callings, the preservation of the Reformed Religion in the Church of *Scotland* in Doctrine Worship, Discipline & Government, against our common Enemies, the reformation of Religion in the Kingdoms of *England* and *Ireland*, in Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government, according to the word of God, and the Example of the best Reformed Churches, and shall indeavour to bring the Churches of God in the three Kingdoms, to the neereſt conjunction and Uniformity in Religion, confession of Faith, Form of Church-government, directory for Worship and Catechizing; That we and our Posterity after us, may as Brethren, live in Faith and Love, and the Lord may delight to dwell in the midst of us.

2. That we shall in like manner, without respect of persons, indeavour the Extirpation of popery, Prelacy (that is, Church government, by Arch Bishops, Bishops, their Chancellors and Commissaries, Deans, Deans and Chapters, Archdeacons, and all other Ecclesiasticall Officers depending on that Hierarchy) Superstition, Heresie, Schisme, Prophanenesse, and

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Whatsoever

whatsoever shall be found to be contrary to sound Doctrine, and the power of Godliness; lest we partake in other mens sins, and thereby be in danger to receive of their plagues, and that the Lord may be one, and his Name one in the three Kingdomes.

3 We shall with the same sinceritie, reality and constancy, in our severall vocations, endeavour with our estates and lives, mutually to preserve the Rights and Priviledges of the Parliaments, and the Liberties of the Kingdomes, and to preserve and defend the Kings Majesties person and authority, in the preservation and defence of the true Religion, and Liberties of the Kingdomes, that the world may beare witnesses with our consciences of our Loyaltie, and that we have not thoughts or intentions to diminish his Majesties just power and greatnesse.

4. Wee shall also with all faithfulnessse endeavour the discovery of all such as have been, or shall bee Incendiaries, Malignants, or evil instruments, by hindering the Reformation of Religion, dividing the King from his people, or one of the Kingdoms from another, or making any Faction or parties amongst the people, contrary to this League & Covenant, that they may be brought to publick triall, and receive condigne punishment, as the degree of their offences shall require or deserve, or the supream Judicatories of both Kingdoms respectively, or others having power from them for that effect, shall judge convenient.

5. And whereas the happinesse of a blessed Peace between these Kingdomes, denyed in former times to  
our

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our Progenitors, is by the good Providence of God granted unto us, and hath been lately concluded, and settled by both Parliaments, we shall each one of us, according to our place and interest, endeavour that they may remain conjoynd in a firm Peace and Union to all Posterity; And that Justice may be done upon the wilfull Opposers thereof, in manner expressed in the precedent Article.

6. We shall also according to our places & callings in this Common cause of Religion, Liberty, and Peace of the Kingdomes, assist and defend all those that enter into this League and Covenant, in the maintaining & pursuing thereof, and shall not suffer our selves directly or indirectly by whatsoever combination, perswasion or terror, to be devided & withdrawn from this blessed Union & conjunction, whether to make defection to the contrary part, or to give our selves to a detestible indifferency or neutrality in this cause which so much concerneth the glory of God, the good of the Kingdoms, and honour of the King; but shall all the dayes of our lives zealously and constantly continue therein, against all opposition, and promote the same according to our power, against all Lets and Impediments whatsoever; and what we are not able our selves to suppress or overcome, we shall reveale and make known, that it may be timely prevented or removed: All which we shall do as in the sight of God.

And because these Kingdoms are guilty of many sins & provocations against God, & his Son Jesus Christ as is too manifest by our present distresses and dangers, the fruits thereof; We professe and declare before God  
and

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and the world, our unfayned desire to be humbled for our own sins, & for the sins of these Kingdoms, especially, that we have not as we ought, valued the inestimable benefit of the Gospel, that we have not laboured for the purity and power thereof, and that we have not endeavored to receive Christ in our hearts, nor to walk worthy of him in our lives, which are the causes of other sins and Transgressions, so much abounding amongst us, and our true and unfeined purpose, desire, and endeavour for our selves, and all others under our power and charge, both in publick and in private, in all duties we owe to God and man, to amend our lives, and each one to go before another in the example of a real Reformation, that the Lord may turn away his wrath, and heavy indignation, and establish these Churches and Kingdoms in truth and peace And this Covenant we make in the presence of Almighty God, the Searcher of all hearts, with a true intention to performe the same as we shall answer at that great day when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed, Most humbly beseeching the Lord to strengthen us by his Holy Spirit for this end, and to blesse our desires and proceedings with such successe as may bee deliverance and safety to his people, & encouragment to other christian Churches groaning under, or in danger of the yoke of Anti-christian Tyranny; to joyne in the same, or like Association and Covenant to the glory of God, the enlargement of the Kingdome of Jesus Christ, and the peace and Tranquility of Christian Kingdomes and Commonwealths.

FINIS.